

ALCOHOL USE

A number of items on the *Idaho Substance Use and School Climate Survey* addressed alcohol use. Students were asked about their lifetime and recent frequency and quantity of consumption of beer, wine or wine coolers, and hard liquor; typical amount consumed at one time and frequency of binge drinking (five or more drinks on one occasion); and age when they first drank alcohol.

For some items, a composite Alcohol Use Scale was used to differentiate levels of student use. The scale divided students into the following categories:

- No Use - students who had never tried alcohol
- Low Use - occasional light drinkers
- Moderate Use - those whose frequency of drinking may be as high as weekly but who usually have less than five drinks at one time
- High Use - those who have one or more drinks daily or who usually have five or more drinks at one time

Lifetime Prevalence and Current Levels of Use

Lifetime prevalence rates indicate the proportion of students who have tried alcohol at least once in their lives. In past surveys, Idaho students have been less likely to report that they have ever tried drinking alcohol compared to their peers nationwide. This pattern continued in the year 2004. Table A1 presents the percentage of students at each grade level responding that they had tried alcohol in their lifetime. At every grade level, these percentages are lower than the corresponding national averages.

Table A1
Percentage of Students Who Ever Used Alcohol, Idaho and Nationwide, 1996-2004

Grade	1996		1998		2000		2002		2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
	National	Idaho	National	Idaho	National	Idaho	National	Idaho	National	Idaho	
Grade 6	--	24.4	--	18.4	--	13.9	--	17.2	--	18.2	-6.2
Grade 8	55.3	49.7	52.5	42.2	51.4	39.6	47.0	38.7	43.9	37.9	-11.8
Grade 10	71.8	--	69.8	62.9	71.4	56.9	66.9	56.7	64.2	55.3	-7.6
Grade 12	79.2	67.9	81.4	64.6	80.3	64.1	78.4	62.7	76.9	58.4	-9.5

Table A1 also provides insight into when students begin to experiment with alcohol. For example, the percentage of students reporting they had tried alcohol more than doubled between sixth and eighth grade (from 18.2 to 37.9 percent), suggesting that middle school is a time when many students begin to try alcohol for the first time. The percentage of

students who reported drinking continued to increase through the grades and stabilized in 12th grade (58.4%) at slightly less than three-fifths of all students.

Figures A1, A2, and A3 permit direct comparison to trends in lifetime prevalence of alcohol consumption between students in Idaho and nationwide, in grades eight, 10, and 12, respectively. The percentage of eighth- and 10th-grade students trying alcohol in the national and Idaho study shows a decline since 1996. While the percentage of 12th-grade students trying alcohol in the national study shows little change since 1996 (Figure A3), the percentage of Idaho 12th-graders continues to decline from 1996.

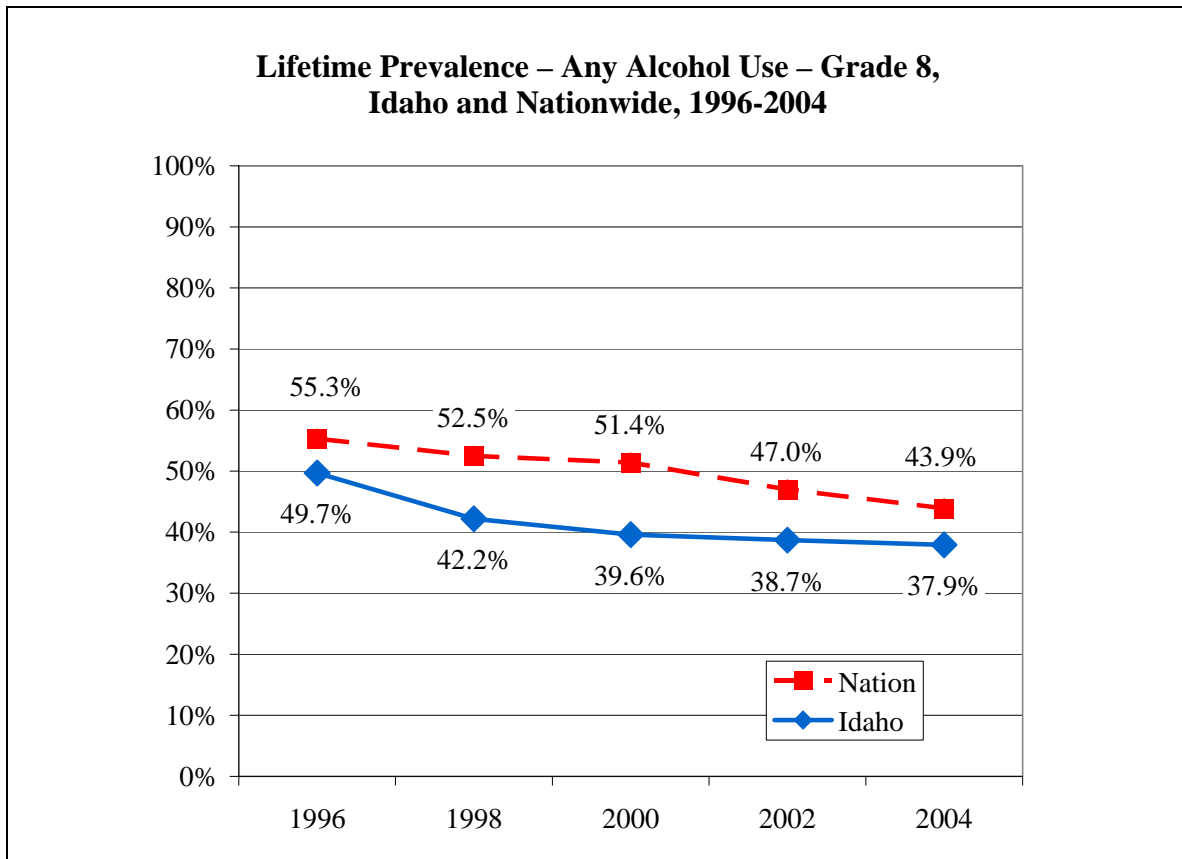


Figure A1

**Lifetime Prevalence – Any Alcohol Use – Grade 10,
Idaho and Nationwide, 1996-2004**

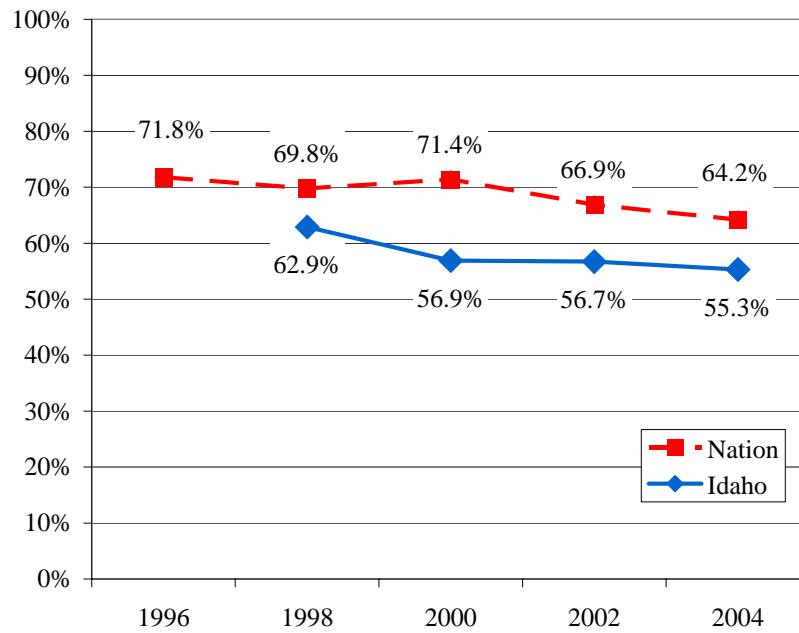


Figure A2

**Lifetime Prevalence – Any Alcohol Use – Grade 12,
Idaho and Nationwide, 1996-2004**

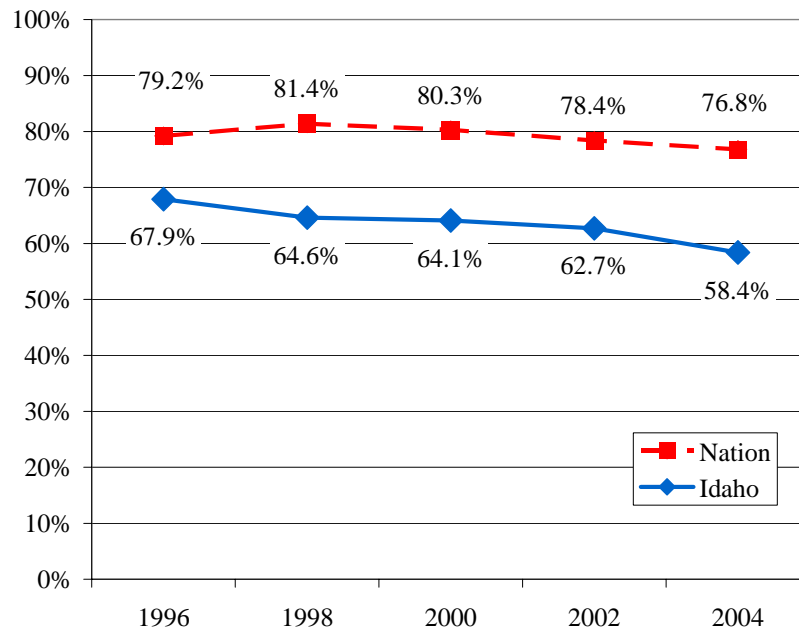


Figure A3

The results for all grades are depicted in bar graph form in Figure A4.

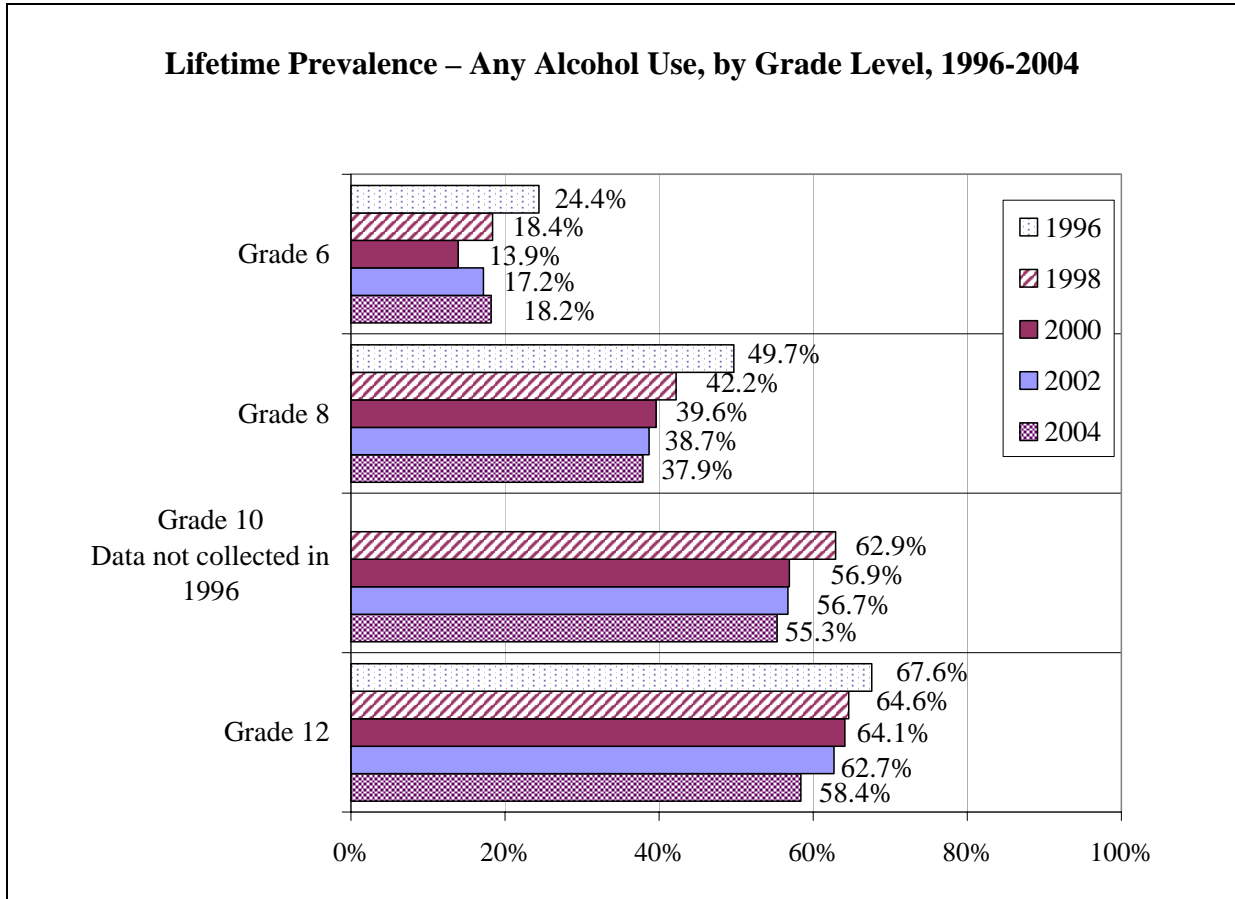


Figure A4

An Alcohol Use Scale was used to differentiate levels of student use. The scale divided students into the following categories:

- No Use - students who had never tried alcohol
- Low Use - occasional light drinkers
- Moderate Use - those whose frequency of drinking may be as high as weekly but who usually have less than five drinks at one time
- High Use - those who have one or more drinks daily or who usually have five or more drinks at one time

Table A2 provides a more detailed look at student drinking. It not only shows the percentage of students who did and did not ever use alcohol, but it also breaks students into categories based on the Alcohol Use Scale.

Table A2
Current Drinking Patterns: Alcohol Use Scale Categories, by Grade Level, 1996-2004

Grade	Alcohol Use Category	Idaho 1996		Idaho 1998		Idaho 2000		Idaho 2002		Idaho 2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
		%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	
Grade 6	No Use	75.6	± 3.3	81.5	± 2.6	86.1	± 1.7	82.2	± 2.4	81.8	± 1.9	+6.2
	Low Use	23.3	± 3.2	17.5	± 2.4	12.8	± 1.7	17.3	± 2.5	17.0	± 1.8	-6.3
	Moderate Use	0.9	± 0.4	0.8	± 0.3	0.7	± 0.6	0.4	± 0.2	0.9	± 0.2	--
	High Use	0.2	± 0.1	0.2	± 0.1	0.3	± 0.2	0.1	± 0.1	0.3	± 0.1	+0.1
Grade 8	No Use	50.3	± 4.1	57.8	± 4.2	60.4	± 9.3	61.3	± 3.2	62.1	± 2.5	+11.8
	Low Use	37.9	± 3.6	31.4	± 3.2	28.4	± 6.7	33.3	± 2.8	32.4	± 2.0	-5.5
	Moderate Use	8.0	± 0.7	7.2	± 1.2	7.1	± 2.1	3.4	± 0.8	3.5	± 0.4	-4.5
	High Use	3.8	± 1.1	3.7	± 0.6	3.9	± 0.9	2.0	± 0.5	2.0	± 0.4	-1.8
Grade 10	No Use	--	--	37.1	± 5.0	43.1	± 9.5	43.3	± 4.3	44.7	± 3.4	+7.6
	Low Use	--	--	25.7	± 2.4	24.7	± 4.0	37.2	± 2.4	36.8	± 2.3	+11.1
	Moderate Use	--	--	20.9	± 2.9	17.6	± 3.1	12.4	± 1.8	12.2	± 1.3	-8.7
	High Use	--	--	16.3	± 3.2	14.7	± 2.8	7.1	± 1.5	6.3	± 0.4	-10.0
Grade 12	No Use	32.4	± 5.0	35.8	± 4.2	35.9	± 6.0	37.3	± 4.0	41.6	± 3.1	+9.2
	Low Use	25.3	± 1.8	22.7	± 2.4	20.4	± 2.2	39.8	± 3.0	36.4	± 1.8	+11.1
	Moderate Use	24.3	± 2.6	23.5	± 2.6	24.0	± 2.8	13.6	± 2.4	14.0	± 1.3	-10.3
	High Use	18.0	± 2.3	18.0	± 3.1	19.7	± 3.5	9.3	± 1.3	8.0	± 1.1	-10.0

Among high school students, there was also a slight increase in the percentage of students reporting alcohol use, but these increases were within the margin of error and may not reflect actual behavioral changes. High school seniors reported an increase of “No Use,” a decrease in “Low Use,” and a similar level to 2002 in “Moderate” and “High Use.”

When responses were broken down by gender, boys and girls were about equally likely to report abstinence from alcohol. Among high school seniors who did report using alcohol, girls were more likely to report low levels of use and boys were more likely to report high levels of use (Table A3).

Table A3
Current Drinking Patterns: Alcohol Use Scale Categories,
by Grade Level and Gender, 2004

		Male	Female
Grade 6	No Use	80.4%	83.2%
	Low Use	18.1%	15.8%
	Moderate Use	1.1%	0.7%
	High Use	0.4%	0.3%
Grade 8	No Use	60.9%	63.2%
	Low Use	33.3%	31.6%
	Moderate Use	3.9%	3.3%
	High Use	2.0%	1.9%
Grade 10	No Use	45.4%	44.2%
	Low Use	33.8%	39.5%
	Moderate Use	13.4%	11.1%
	High Use	7.4%	5.2%
Grade 12	No Use	41.3%	42.2%
	Low Use	32.6%	40.0%
	Moderate Use	15.7%	12.5%
	High Use	10.4%	5.3%

Lifetime Prevalence of Any Alcohol Use, by Ethnicity

Figure A5 illustrates the lifetime prevalence of any alcohol use by grade and ethnicity (as well as the actual number of students reporting at each level). Since Caucasians comprised the majority of the sample (80.7 percent), caution should be used in the interpretation of the data. Overall, the use of alcohol increases up to the 12th grade, except for Native American student use which increases by grade 10 (65.7 percent) then decreases by grade 12. By 12th grade, Hispanics (70.2%), Native Americans (59.5 percent), and African Americans (84.2 percent) have similar lifetime prevalence rates of alcohol use. About 56.6 percent of Caucasians had tried alcohol by 12th grade. Asians (54.9 percent) had the lowest lifetime prevalence of any alcohol use. The fact that the sampling of students reflects the population pattern speaks to the validity of the survey. But because of the small number of minority students in Idaho, just a few students in a particular minority group may be represented in the chart as a big percentage. However, that percentage does not mean that there are huge *numbers* of minority students participating in the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.

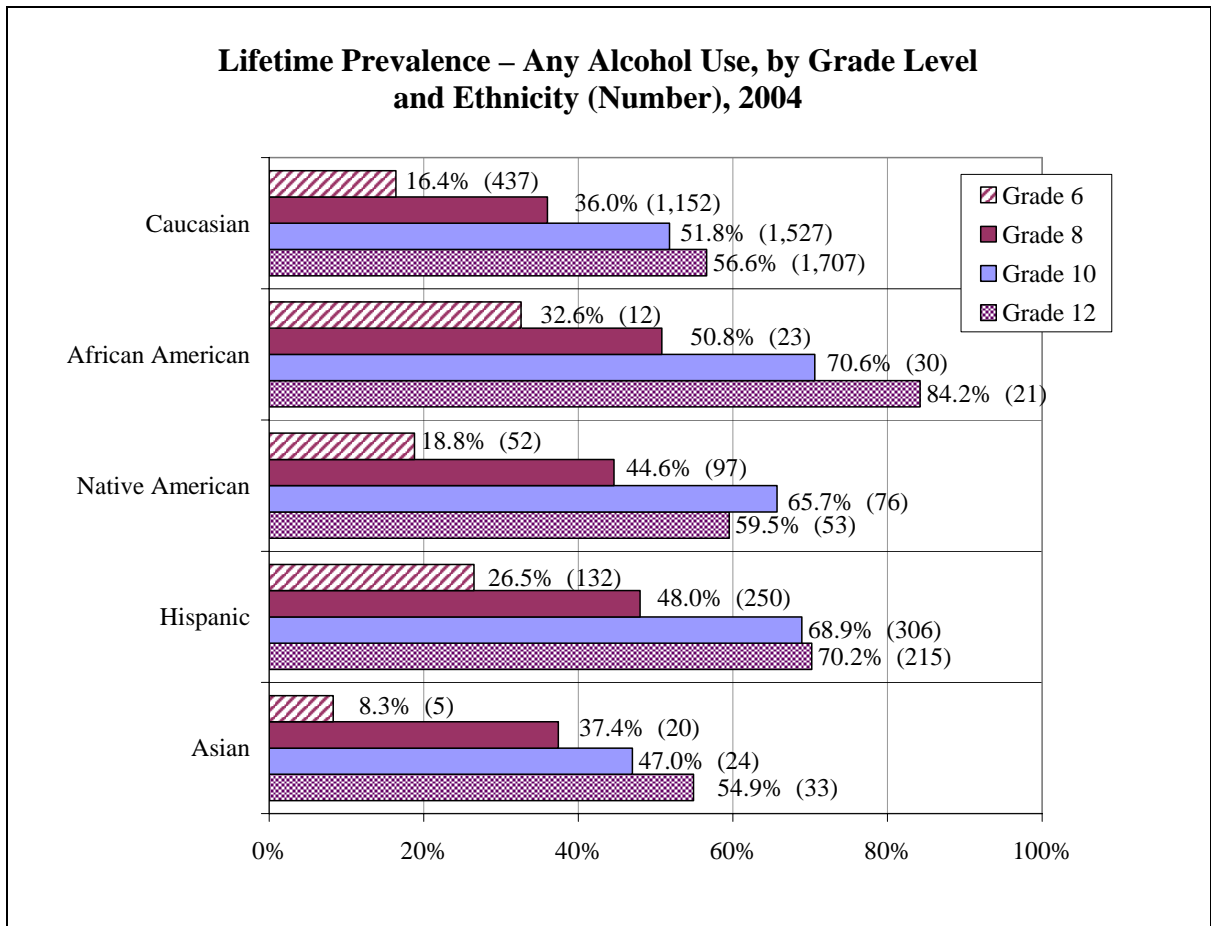


Figure A5

Student Drinking in the Previous 30 Days

Students were also asked to report on how often they had consumed any alcohol in the 30 days prior to completing the survey. “Any alcohol” means a bottle of beer, a glass of wine, a wine cooler, a shot of liquor, or a mixed drink. Occasions when the respondents had “just a few sips” of an alcoholic beverage are excluded. Figure A6 compares the percentage of students at each grade level who reported consuming any alcohol in the previous month to findings from the national *Monitoring the Future* study. (National data is available for grades eight, 10, and 12 only.) This figure shows that recent student drinking is more common among the older students, peaking with about 40 percent of surveyed Idaho high school seniors reporting having used alcohol in the previous month.

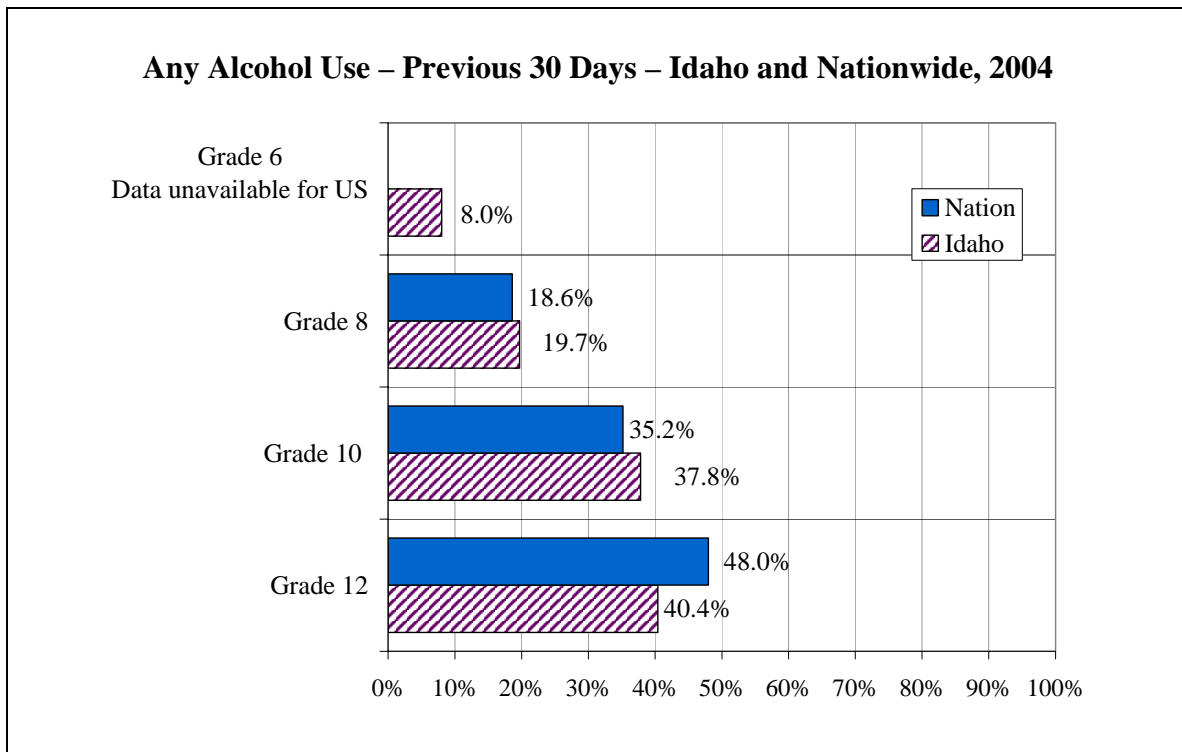


Figure A6

It also illustrates that the percentage of Idaho students reporting any recent drinking was very similar to national figures. When the margin of error (listed in Table A4) is taken into account, *Idaho seniors were less likely to report recent drinking than seniors nationwide, and Idaho eighth- and 10th-graders report about the same likelihood of recent drinking.* Thus, although Idaho seniors overall were less likely to have ever experimented with alcohol than were seniors nationwide, patterns of more frequent alcohol use in Idaho appear to mimic patterns elsewhere in the United States.

Table A4 reports in greater detail the number of times during the previous 30 days that students reported consuming any alcohol. Students in every grade, except grade 12, reported less 30-day alcohol use than they did in 1998 and 1996, and their 2004 reported rates were very similar to those reported in 2000 and 2002. Students in grade 12 reported use levels very similar to 2000 and down only slightly from 1996. These changes are well within the margin of error and may not reflect any genuine change in student behavior.

Table A4
Frequency of Drinking in the Previous 30 Days, by Grade Level, 1996-2004

Grade	Alcohol Use Category	Idaho 1996		Idaho 1998		Idaho 2000		Idaho 2002		Idaho 2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
		%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	
Grade 6	None	88.5	± 1.7	89.3	± 1.9	93.9	± 0.9	92.9	± 1.4	92.0	± 0.9	+3.5
	1-2 Times	9.1	± 1.2	8.6	± 1.8	4.4	± 0.8	5.7	± 1.0	6.3	± 0.8	-2.8
	3-5 Times	1.5	± 0.5	1.0	± 0.3	1.1	± 0.4	0.8	± 0.4	0.9	± 0.2	-0.6
	6-9 Times	0.4	± 0.1	0.3	± 0.2	0.1	± 0.1	0.2	± 0.2	0.3	± 0.1	-0.3
	10+ Times	0.5	± 0.2	0.8	± 0.3	0.1	± 0.1	0.4	± 0.2	0.6	± 0.1	+0.1
Grade 8	None	72.5	± 2.9	74.3	± 2.7	79.1	± 4.7	78.9	± 2.5	80.3	± 1.5	+7.8
	1-2 Times	17.2	± 2.2	17.0	± 1.9	13.3	± 3.2	14.0	± 1.6	12.4	± 1.0	-4.8
	3-5 Times	5.4	± 0.8	4.6	± 0.8	4.6	± 1.5	3.7	± 1.1	4.1	± 0.4	-1.3
	6-9 Times	2.4	± 0.5	1.8	± 0.3	0.9	± 0.6	1.2	± 0.4	1.3	± 0.2	-1.1
	10+ Times	2.5	± 0.7	2.3	± 0.4	2.0	± 0.7	2.2	± 0.6	1.9	± 0.4	-0.6
Grade 10	None	--	--	57.3	± 5.2	64.5	± 6.1	61.8	± 4.7	62.2	± 2.8	+4.9
	1-2 Times	--	--	22.3	± 2.4	15.5	± 2.4	18.3	± 1.5	18.8	± 1.5	-3.5
	3-5 Times	--	--	10.8	± 1.9	9.1	± 1.8	9.7	± 1.5	9.7	± 0.8	-1.1
	6-9 Times	--	--	5.0	± 1.1	5.7	± 1.3	4.9	± 2.2	3.9	± 0.3	-1.1
	10+ Times	--	--	4.6	± 0.8	5.2	± 1.1	5.2	± 1.2	5.4	± 0.6	-0.8
Grade 12	None	54.8	± 4.5	57.2	± 3.6	56.7	± 5.8	57.3	± 4.3	59.6	± 2.6	+4.8
	1-2 Times	22.4	± 2.4	21.3	± 1.6	19.8	± 3.1	19.5	± 2.5	18.6	± 1.0	-3.8
	3-5 Times	11.3	± 1.6	11.0	± 1.6	11.6	± 2.6	11.4	± 1.6	10.7	± 1.0	-0.6
	6-9 Times	5.2	± 0.9	4.8	± 0.7	6.0	± 1.3	4.9	± 0.8	5.2	± 0.5	--
	10+ Times	6.4	± 1.0	5.7	± 1.4	5.9	± 1.9	6.8	± 1.0	6.0	± 0.7	-0.4

The findings for alcohol use in the previous month were compared by grade and gender (Figure A7). Among sixth- and eighth-grade students, very small numbers of students had used any alcohol in the previous 30 days, and there was no difference between boys and girls in their use. Among high school students, an equal percent of 10th-grade girls and boys used alcohol in the previous 30 days (37.8%). For high school seniors, more 12th-grade boys (42.9%) used alcohol in the previous 30 days than girls did (37.7%).

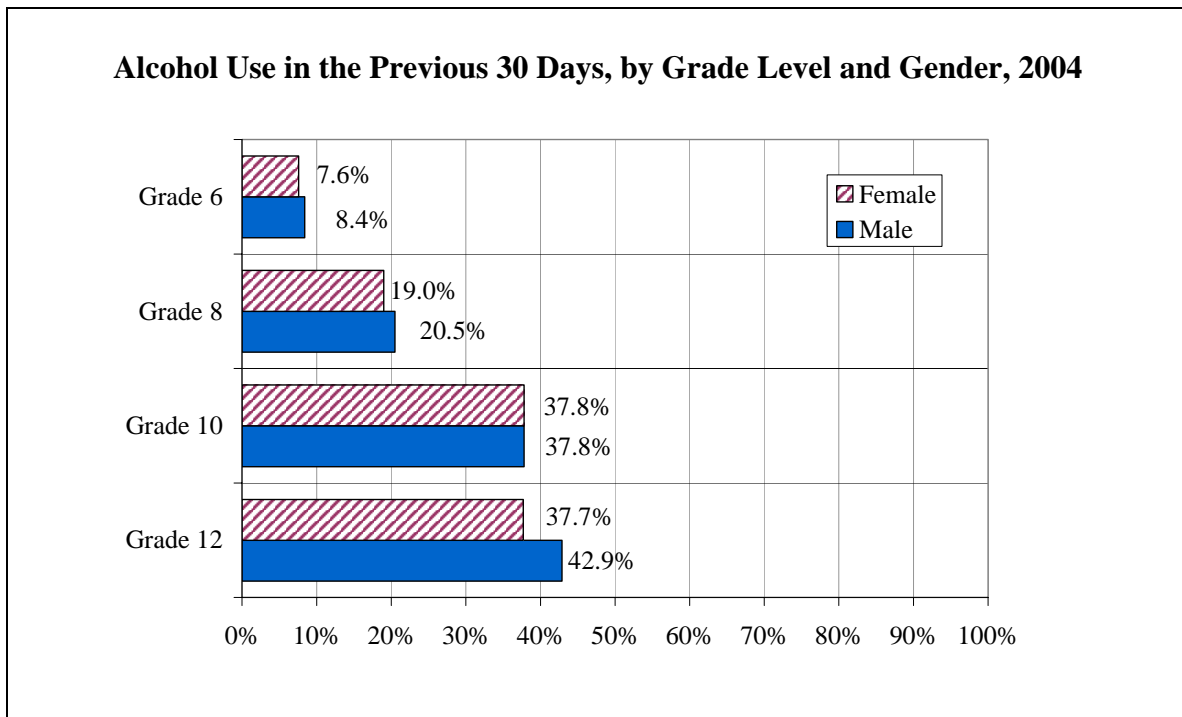


Figure A7

Frequency of Binge Drinking

Binge drinking refers to incidents of consuming five or more drinks at a single sitting. A drink is defined as a bottle of beer, a glass of wine, a wine cooler, a shot of liquor, or a mixed drink. Binge drinking is a hazardous form of substance use, particularly when combined with driving.

Binge drinking remained relatively rare before high school and was *most common among high school seniors, about a third of whom reported having engaged in binge drinking within the past 30 days.*

As Figure A8 illustrates, Idaho students reported notable regional differences in binge drinking. High school seniors in Region I were much more likely to report having engaged in binge drinking in the previous month (about 42.9 percent) than students in other regions.*

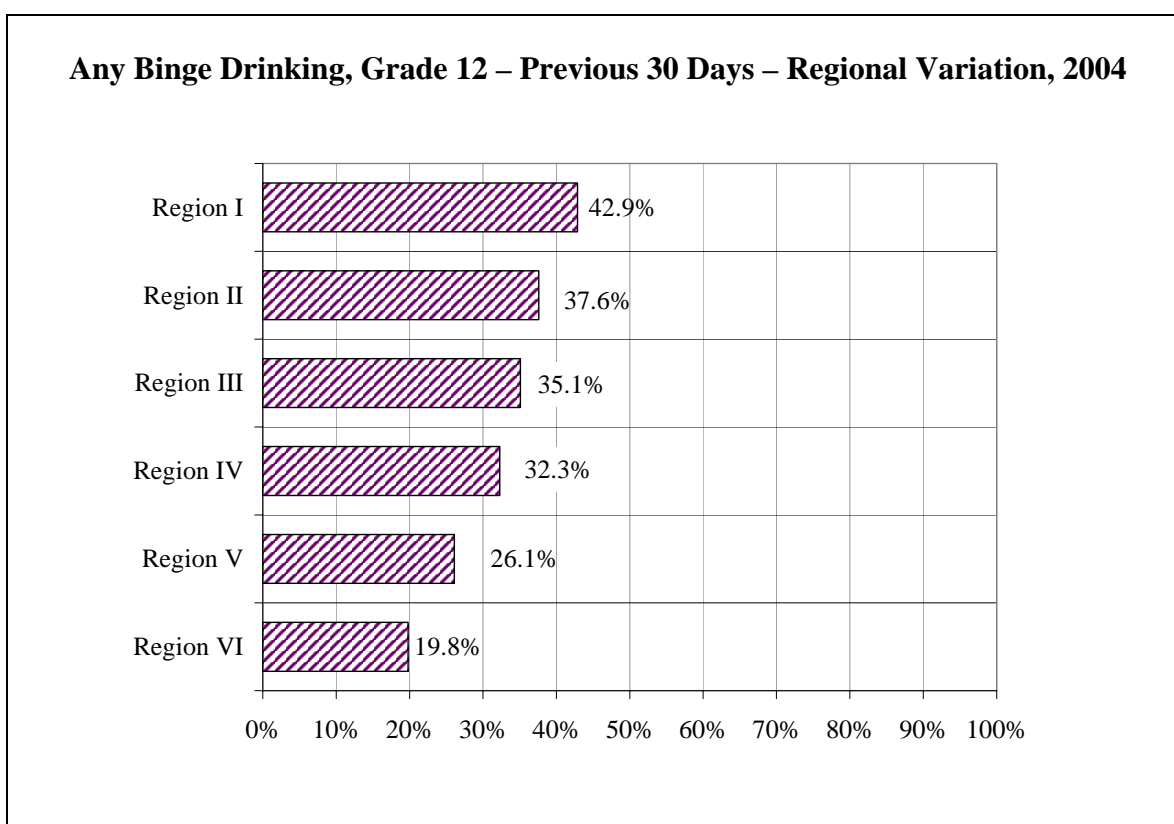


Figure A8

* Region I encompasses the following thirteen school districts: St. Maries, Plummer/Worley, West Bonner County, Lake Pend Oreille, Boundary County, Coeur d'Alene, Lakeland, Post Falls, Kootenai, Kellogg, Mullan, Wallace, and Avery.

Compared to previous years, the prevalence of binge drinking among Idaho students appears to have changed little. Table A5 presents the findings on the frequency of binge drinking. Among sixth-, eighth-, and 10th-grade students, reports of binge drinking dropped slightly since 1996, but the decreases were generally within the margin of error. Among 12th-grade students, reports of binge drinking increased slightly in 2004, but again the changes were within the margin of error.

Table A5
Frequency of Binge Drinking in the Previous 30 Days, by Grade Level, 1996-2004

Grade	Alcohol Use Category	Idaho 1996		Idaho 1998		Idaho 2000		Idaho 2002		Idaho 2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
		%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	
Grade 6	None	95.5	± 0.9	95.9	± 0.8	95.9	± 1.4	96.0	± 0.7	94.9	± 0.7	-0.6
	Once	2.6	± 0.6	2.7	± 0.6	2.1	± 0.9	2.7	± 0.5	3.2	± 0.5	+0.6
	Twice	1.0	± 0.4	0.8	± 0.6	1.1	± 0.5	0.8	± 0.5	0.8	± 0.2	-0.2
	3-5 Times	0.6	± 0.2	0.4	± 0.2	0.5	± 0.2	0.3	± 0.2	0.7	± 0.2	+0.1
	6+ Times	0.3	± 0.2	0.2	± 0.1	0.4	± 0.2	0.2	± 0.1	0.4	± 0.1	+0.1
Grade 8	None	85.4	± 1.4	86.2	± 1.5	87.1	± 2.7	87.5	± 2.1	86.8	± 1.0	+1.4
	Once	6.6	± 0.7	6.1	± 1.4	5.5	± 1.1	5.4	± 1.2	5.6	± 0.5	-1.0
	Twice	3.4	± 0.5	3.7	± 0.5	3.2	± 0.8	2.6	± 0.7	3.2	± 0.4	-0.2
	3-5 Times	3.0	± 0.8	2.6	± 0.3	2.4	± 0.6	2.4	± 0.8	2.6	± 0.3	-0.4
	6+ Times	1.7	± 0.4	1.4	± 0.3	1.7	± 0.7	2.1	± 0.4	1.9	± 0.4	+0.2
Grade 10	None	--	--	69.5	± 4.3	74.0	± 5.0	71.5	± 3.8	72.1	± 2.2	+2.6
	Once	--	--	10.2	± 1.6	6.8	± 1.4	7.6	± 1.0	8.3	± .7	-1.9
	Twice	--	--	6.9	± 1.2	6.2	± 1.5	6.2	± 0.9	7.0	± 0.7	+0.1
	3-5 Times	--	--	8.4	± 1.9	7.6	± 1.4	8.3	± 1.5	7.2	± 0.7	-1.2
	6+ Times	--	--	5.0	± 1.6	5.5	± 1.3	6.4	± 1.1	5.5	± 0.5	+0.5
Grade 12	None	68.4	± 3.6	69.9	± 4.3	66.8	± 5.1	66.2	± 3.8	68.3	± 2.3	-0.1
	Once	9.0	± 1.0	8.9	± 1.1	9.1	± 1.2	8.6	± 1.4	7.8	± 0.6	-0.2
	Twice	7.6	± 1.1	6.4	± 1.7	9.0	± 1.8	7.7	± 0.9	8.0	± 0.5	+0.4
	3-5 Times	9.3	± 1.6	8.3	± 1.2	8.2	± 1.4	9.2	± 1.8	8.6	± 0.8	-0.7
	6+ Times	5.7	± 0.9	6.4	± 1.7	6.9	± 3.2	8.3	± 1.3	7.3	± 1.0	+1.6

Age at First Full Drink

Students were asked how old they were when they had their first full drink of an alcoholic beverage (beer, a glass of wine, or a mixed drink). A “full drink” is defined as a bottle of beer, a glass of wine, a wine cooler, a shot of liquor, or a mixed drink.

Figure A9 compares the responses of high school seniors in 2004 to seniors in 1996, 1998, 2000, and 2002. Although there were some small fluctuations, these were within the margin of error, meaning that high school seniors who used alcohol in the year 2004 began drinking at about the same ages as seniors in 1996, 1998, 2000, and 2002.

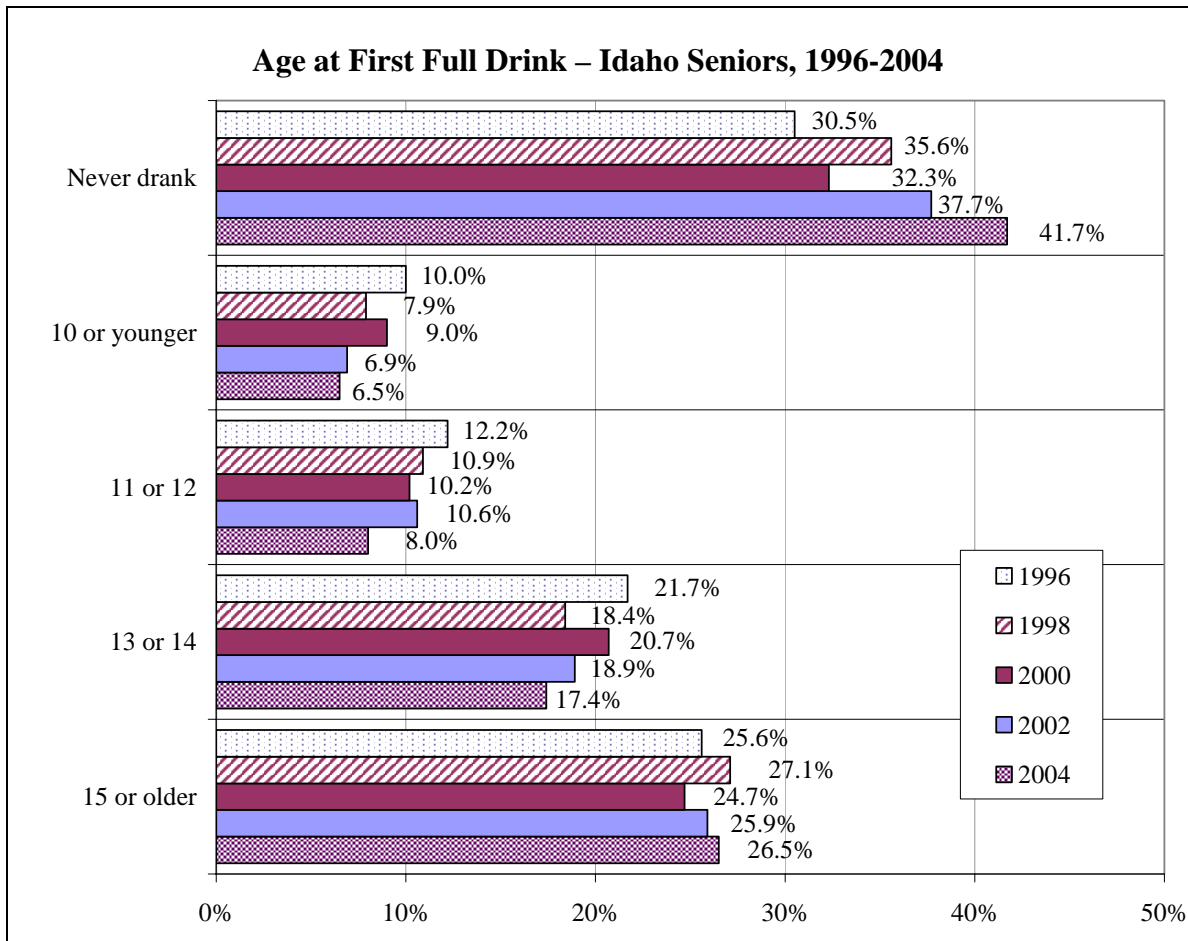


Figure A9

This data also permits a comparison of the percentage of students who started to drink at the age of 12 or younger. Table A6 compares the percentages of students in grades eight through 12 in 2004 who reported having consumed their first full drink at age 12 or younger. It appears that among the lower grades, a larger percentage of students are consuming their first drinks at earlier ages. Eighth-grade students are more likely to report consuming a full drink before age twelve than current 12th-grade students are.

Table A6
Percentage of Students Reporting First Full Drink at Age 12 or Younger, 2004

Age at First Drink	Grade 8	Grade 10	Grade 12
10 or younger	9.4 (± 1.2)	8.5 (± 0.6)	6.5 (± 0.7)
11 or 12	13.1 (± 0.7)	11.4 (± 1.4)	8.0 (± 0.6)
Total, 12 or younger	22.5%	19.9%	14.5%

Numbers in parentheses represent the margin of error.

Sources of Alcohol

Students who reported drinking some alcohol were asked where they obtained the alcoholic beverages they drank. Table A7 details student responses across the four surveys. Students in the sixth grade had very low alcohol use. If they did use alcohol, they most commonly (4.9 percent) reported that their parents allowed them some alcohol at home. Among older students (10th- and 12th-graders), about 8.2 and 7.6 percent of students, respectively, reported that their parents permitted some alcohol at home.

The most frequent response for high school students was that they obtained alcohol “from friends” (between 28.5 and 33.8 percent). Compared to 1996, students in the 10th and 12th grades were slightly less likely to report that they had obtained alcohol from other adults or had purchased it themselves.

Consistent with findings on other similar survey questions, the level of response “I don’t drink” by students in all grades this year remained stable with responses in previous years. The change for students was very small and less than the margin of error, indicating that there was probably no decline in drinking among the students at all grades.

Differences between the percentages of students reporting “I don’t drink” to this question (49 percent of seniors) and their response of “no use” on current drinking (41.6 percent of seniors, Table A2) may be due to survey error or to a genuine difference in student answers. For example, students may have reported drinking once in the past 30 days, but then answered “I don’t drink” because they didn’t intend to repeat the experience.

Table A7
Sources of Alcoholic Beverages, by Grade Level, 1996-2004

Grade	Alcohol Use Category	Idaho 1996		Idaho 1998		Idaho 2000		Idaho 2002		Idaho 2004		Idaho Change Since First Survey
		%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	%	Margin of Error	
Grade 6	I don't drink	89.1	± 1.5	91.3	± 1.4	93.4	± 1.7	92.7	± 1.4	91.7	± 0.8	+2.6
	Home, parents know	6.9	± 1.1	4.8	± 1.1	3.8	± 0.9	4.6	± 1.2	4.9	± 0.6	-2.0
	Home, parents don't know	1.1	± 0.4	1.5	± 0.5	1.4	± 0.8	0.8	± 0.5	1.3	± 0.3	+0.2
	From friends	2.7	± 0.5	2.0	± 0.5	1.2	± 0.5	1.8	± 0.4	1.9	± 0.3	-0.8
	Other adults or buy myself	0.2	± 0.1	0.4	± 0.2	0.2	± 0.2	0.1	± 0.1	0.3	± 0.1	+0.1
Grade 8	I don't drink	67.8	± 3.1	71.4	± 3.4	73.9	± 6.0	73.4	± 2.8	74.6	± 1.4	+6.8
	Home, parents know	8.8	± 1.4	9.3	± 1.7	7.7	± 2.1	9.8	± 1.2	9.4	± 0.9	+0.6
	Home, parents don't know	5.3	± 1.5	4.1	± 0.8	3.5	± 0.8	4.3	± 0.9	3.2	± 0.3	-2.1
	From friends	15.1	± 1.5	12.6	± 1.3	13.8	± 3.6	10.7	± 1.6	11.2	± 0.6	+3.9
	Other adults or buy myself	2.9	± 0.6	2.5	± 0.5	1.1	± 0.4	1.9	± 0.6	1.7	± 0.3	-1.2
Grade 10	I don't drink	--	--	49.4	± 5.3	56.3	± 7.4	54.8	± 4.1	54.4	± 2.9	+5.0
	Home, parents know	--	--	8.5	± 2.1	7.3	± 3.1	7.6	± 1.7	8.2	± 0.6	-0.3
	Home, parents don't know	--	--	2.1	± 0.5	2.3	± 0.4	2.2	± 0.6	2.4	± 0.3	+0.3
	From friends	--	--	31.4	± 3.2	27.9	± 4.5	28.5	± 2.6	28.5	± 1.7	-2.9
	Other adults or buy myself	--	--	8.6	± 1.9	6.1	± 1.1	6.9	± 1.1	6.5	± 0.7	-2.1
Grade 12	I don't drink	44.6	± 4.9	46.2	± 3.9	45.9	± 6.5	46.0	± 4.0	49.0	± 2.7	+4.4
	Home, parents know	5.4	± 1.0	6.8	± 1.3	8.0	± 1.9	7.6	± 0.8	7.6	± 0.8	+2.2
	Home, parents don't know	0.6	± 0.2	1.4	± 0.6	0.8	± 0.3	0.8	± 0.5	0.9	± 0.1	+0.3
	From friends	34.6	± 3.3	33.0	± 3.9	33.5	± 3.8	33.8	± 3.4	33.8	± 2.2	-0.8
	Other adults or buy myself	14.8	± 1.6	12.6	± 2.9	11.7	± 2.6	11.8	± 1.7	8.6	± 0.8	-6.2

Perceived Risk of Harm from Alcohol

Students were asked about their perceptions of potential harm from high consumption of alcohol (“How much do you think people risk harming themselves if they have five or more drinks once or twice each weekend?”). A “drink” is defined as a bottle of beer, a glass of wine, a wine cooler, a shot of liquor, or a mixed drink.

Student responses are presented in Figure A10. Across all grade levels, students were most likely to respond that this behavior posed a “great risk.” Eighth-grade students were most likely to see this level of drinking as highly risky. At all grade levels, fewer than 10 percent of students indicated that they thought this level of drinking posed no risk.

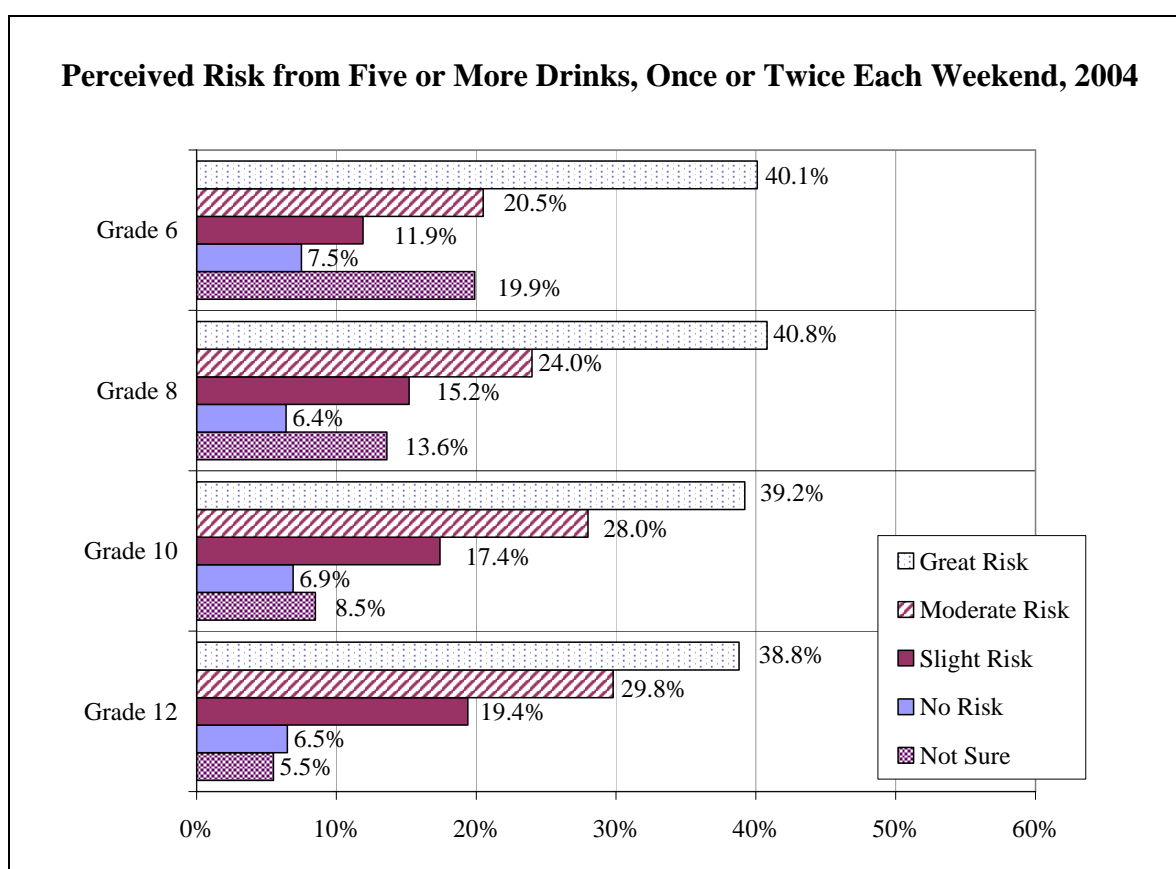


Figure A10

Girls in every grade surveyed were more likely than boys to indicate that people risked harming themselves if they had five or more drinks once or twice each weekend (Figure A11). A “drink” is defined as a bottle of beer, a glass of wine, a wine cooler, a shot of liquor, or a mixed drink.

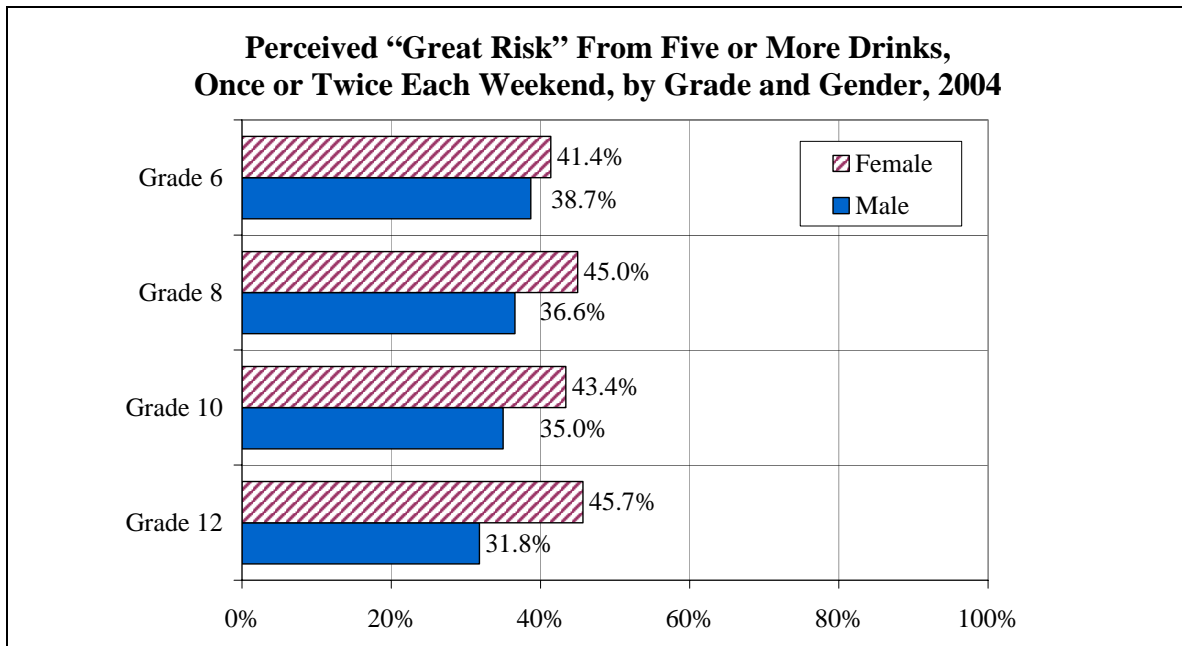


Figure A11

In Figure A12, the responses of Idaho students in eighth, 10th, and 12th grades are compared to those of students from around the country. *Idaho students in all three grades were less likely than were students nationwide to respond that people put themselves at “great risk” of harm by having five or more drinks once or twice each weekend.*

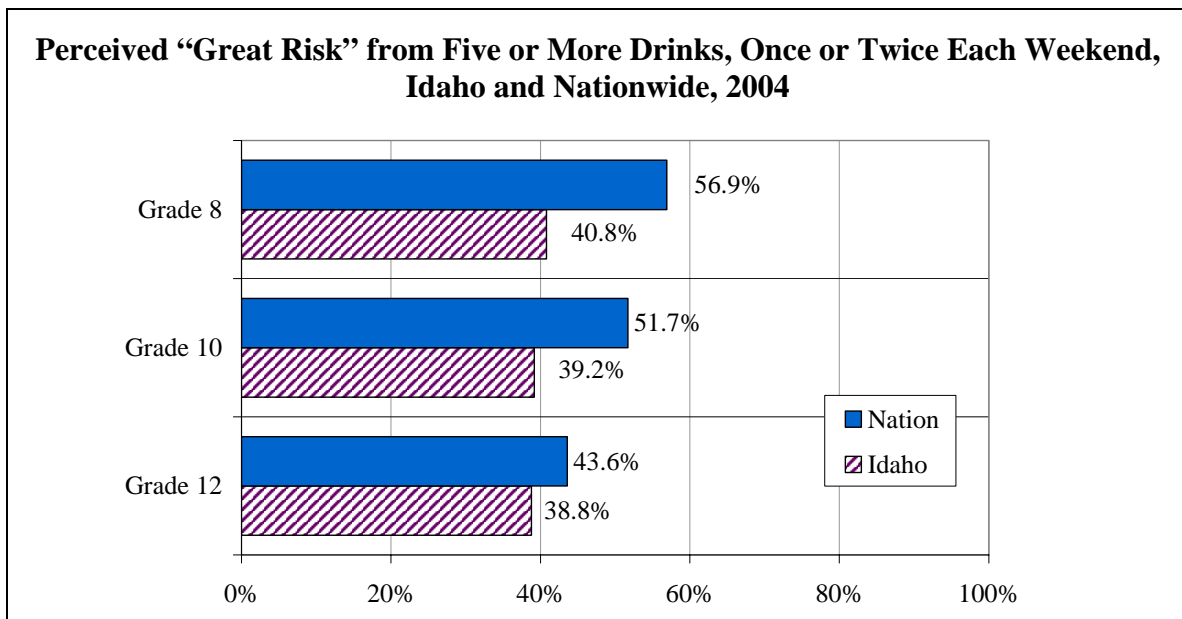


Figure A12

Parental Supervision and Student Alcohol Use

In the 2002 report, a relationship was found between the level of parental supervision and student consumption of alcohol. This same relationship was observed again in 2004. Students who experienced lower levels of supervision by their parents were more likely to report moderate or high levels of alcohol use.

The survey question about supervision was worded as follows: “When you are away from home, do your parents know where you are and who you are with?” For this analysis, the response categories “every time” and “most times” were collapsed into “high supervision”, while the responses of “sometimes,” “rarely,” or “never” were combined as “low supervision.”

Figure A13 illustrates this trend using the specific example of 12th-grade students. Among students who reported low supervision, 23.1 percent said they did not drink alcohol, 22.9 percent reported low use of alcohol, 24.3 percent reported moderate use, and 16.4 percent reported high use. In contrast, 44.8 percent of highly supervised students reported no alcohol use. Among the highly supervised students, 38.8 percent reported low alcohol use, 11.1 percent moderate use, and 5.3 percent high use.

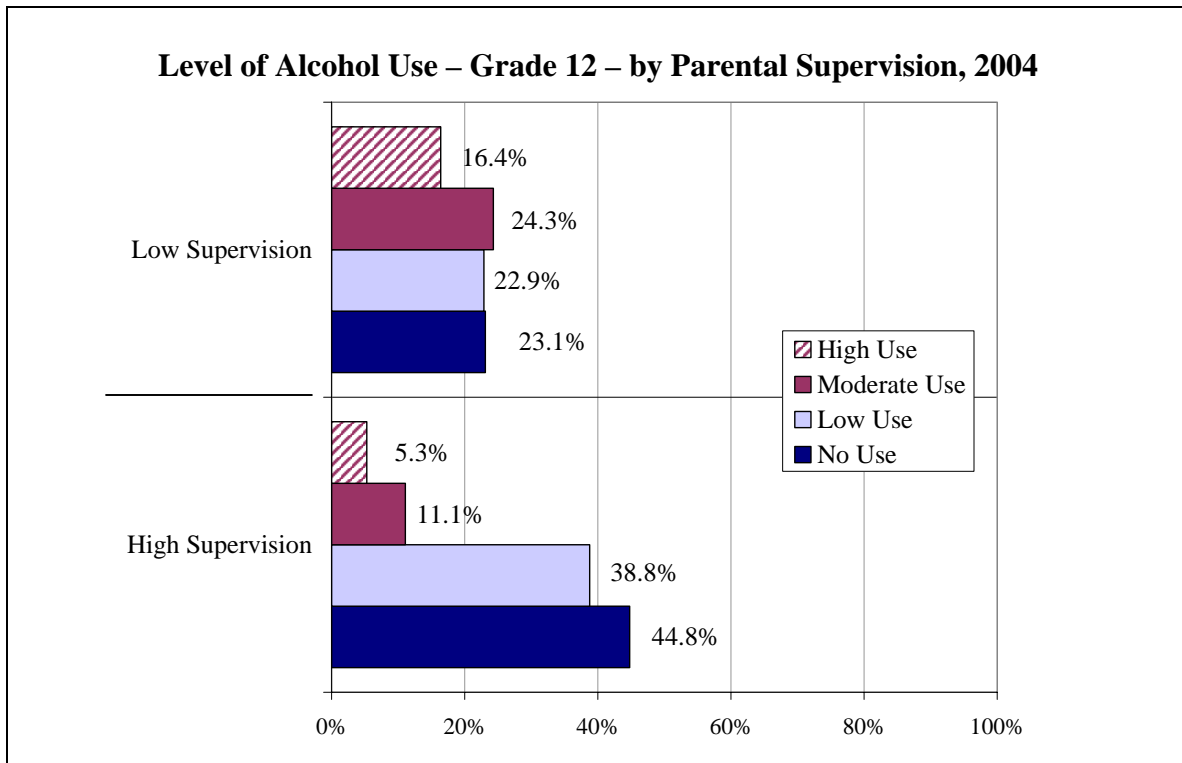


Figure A13

This same overall relationship between supervision and levels of alcohol use held across the different grades. Although far fewer of the youngest students reported alcohol use, it was nevertheless the less supervised younger students who were most likely to report alcohol use, especially moderate and high levels of use.